



R E S P O N S I B L E G R O W T H F O R U M

March 7, 2007



Clark County Commissioners
Clark County Planning Commission
1300 Franklin Street
Vancouver, WA 98660

Dear Clark County Decision Makers,

While looking at the County's website "Maps Online" to attempt to determine why wetlands I knew to exist, didn't show as critical lands on the Vacant Buildable Lands Inventory, I found a layer called "Clark County Wetlands Inventory." It appeared to be much closer to reflecting the actual wetlands on the ground.

Brent Davis, County Wetland Staff, said Clark County embarked on a program to better inventory the wetlands a few years ago. They created a 2-foot contour map by satellite, combined that with the hydric soils map, and then ground checked many of the areas. Correlations were developed between the contours, soils and ground check to produce a new wetland inventory.

Not all of the drainage basins were completed.

Attached is an example of an area just West of Battle Ground showing 1) the critical lands in the BLI, including riparian habitat and buffers on both habitat and wetlands 2) the same area from the "Clark County Wetland Inventory" showing just wetlands and hydric soils with no buffers.

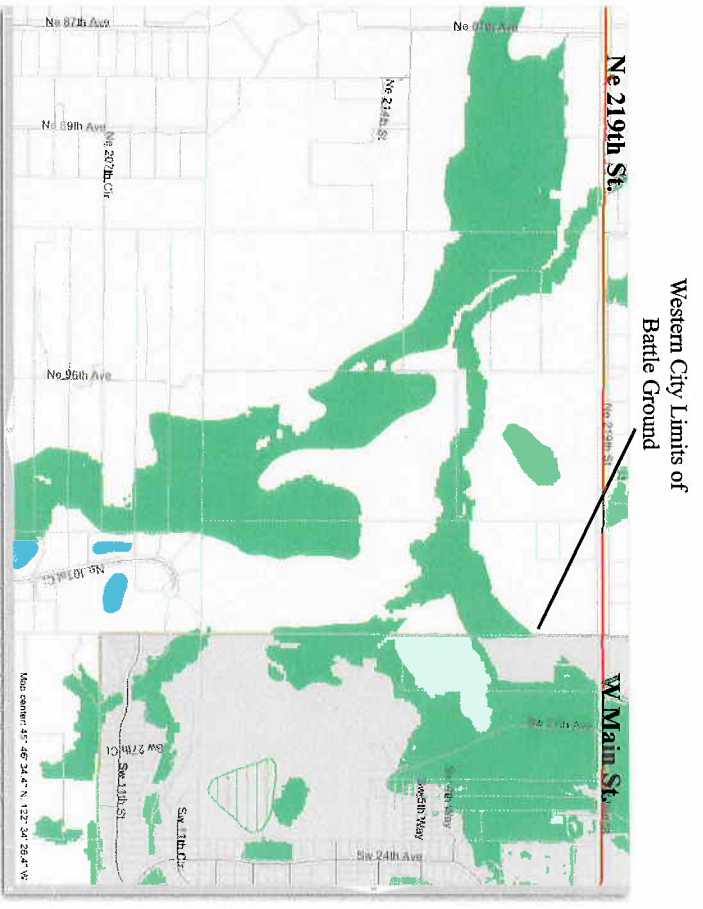
Why wasn't this data used in 2006T, the newest Comp Plan Map, and also in the inventory of buildable lands?

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jerry Olson".

Jerry Olson
Olson Engineering, Inc.

Attachment: Wetland Comparison Area



Western City Limits of
Battle Ground

The Digital Atlas - Wetlands Inventory

Includes only the following:

- Hydric Soils
- County Wetland Inventory
- NWI Mapped Wetland
- 200-Foot Shoreline Buffer

(Does not include riparian habitat or buffers on the wetlands or riparian habitat)

**Battle Ground Urban Growth Area
Preferred Alternative**
Includes riparian habitat, wetland buffers
and riparian habitat buffers.

